

# The Holy Family

27/28<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## First Reading Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14

*'He who fears the Lord honours his parents.'*

The Lord honoured the father above the children,

and he confirmed the judgement of the mother over her sons.

Whoever honours his father atones for sins,

and whoever glorifies his mother is like one who lays up treasure.

Whoever honours his father will be gladdened by his own children,

and when he prays he will be heard.

Whoever glorifies his father will have long life,

and whoever obeys the Lord will refresh his mother.

O son, help your father in his old age

and do not grieve him as long as he lives;

even if he is lacking in understanding,

show indulgence;

in all your strength do not despise him.

For kindness to a father will not be

forgotten,

and against your sins it will be credited to you.

*The Word of the Lord*

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## Responsorial Psalm

*Ps 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R1a*

*Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.*

Blessed are all who fear the LORD,

and walk in his ways!

By the labour of your hands you shall eat.

You will be blessed and prosper.

*Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.*

Your wife like a fruitful vine

in the heart of your house;

your children like shoots of the olive

around your table.

*Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.*

Indeed thus shall be blessed

the husband who fears the LORD.

May the LORD bless you from Sion.

May you see Jerusalem prosper

all the days of your life!

*Blessed are all who fear the LORD, and walk in his ways.*

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Second Reading      Colossians 3:12-17  
*Family life in the Lord.*

Brothers and sisters: Put on, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord

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Gospel Acclamation      Col3:15,16

*Alleluia, alleluia!*

May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts;  
let the message of Christ find a home with you.

*Alleluia!*

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Gospel      Matthew 2:13-15, 19-23  
*'Take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt.'*

When the Magi had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: 'Out of Egypt I called my son.'

But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, 'Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.' And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

The Gospel of the Lord